The Call Letter

October 2021
Volume 47 #10

This set was displayed at the September meeting by Sonny Clutter. It is a "Trav-Ler", 4 tube super-het originally costing about $14 in 1947 funds.

McCracken Estate Auction October 23

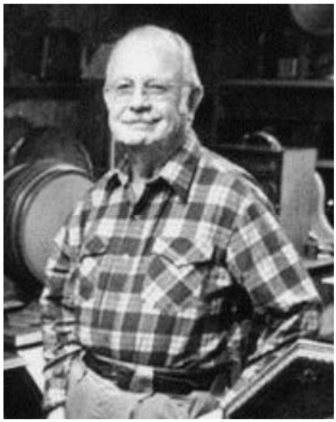
The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379 Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 the Society has been dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of "Vintage Radio" and wireless equipment. Membership is open to all. The dues are $25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year.

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974 and continues to be a publication that informs members of the society's business and that supports the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the Abernethy Grange Hall at 15745 S. Harley Ave. in Oregon City, Oregon. They convene at or about 9:30 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and exchanging information. Guests are welcome at all public Society meetings and functions. Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows, and radio sales which are announced in the Call Letter and held in and around the Pacific Northwest.



With each issue of the Call Letter, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1999. A generous bequest from Jim's estate ensures the vitality of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, and continued publication of the Call Letter.

Society Officers

President Pat Kagi (360 909-7009)	patkagi@yahoo.com
Vice President Franklin Ouchida	crazykeychains@gmail.com
Treasurer Ed Tompkins (360 573-3895)	edtomp@Q.com
Recording Sec'y Liles Garcia (503 649-9288)	landn2@frontier.com
Board member Mike McCrow (503)730-4639	soundmikey14@gmail.com
Librarian Jeff LaDoe (503) 408-4446	flat4pdx@gmail.com

On the Cover:

Sonny Clutter took this photo at the September meeting. The Featured radio types were those that began with a "T" and this little Trav-ler, 4 tube fit the bill.

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Announcements

The November meeting will be on November 13 at the Abernethy Grange Hall in Oregon City, Oregon.

The **Swap Shop** is for members' classified ads. Ads are free to members. Service ads and WANTED ads can be permanent. FOR SALE ads will run for 90 days or until cancelled by the posting member (whichever comes first).

See new Call Letter guidelines on lucky page 13

Visit our web site at: www.nwvrs.com

The McCracken Estate Auction
October 23 at Abernethy Grange Hall

Photos at https://chegg-prep.app.link/ImZQMNSgjkb
Email for early bidders Number. crazykeychains@gmail.com
Auction Inventory list will be sent out by email soon.
Minimum bid $1 - No reserve - No Buyers Fee-
More items Not pictured
Preview at 8 Auction begins at 9

Policies from the President

These policies were decided on by the officers of the society and are generally applicable to NVRS events and sales:

1. Heretofore, there will be no free table at any swap meet in Aurora and perhaps in other locations also. Unfortunately, it has become a habit for people to "dump stuff" on a free table and then leave it for the society volunteers to haul away and dispose of.

2. As often as is possible, there will be a "Penny Auction" at swap meets where items donated to the club are auctioned off some time close to the end of the event.

> ***Be it known*** that items donated to the society must be approved by the auctioneer BEFORE they can be accepted as a donation. Also a willing auctioneer and bookkeeping crew must be identified for the auction before auction items are accepted.

President's Message

October has shaped up as a fun month since we have had the Fall Sale in Aurora on October 9th and are looking forward to the big auction on October 23rd at the Abernethy Grange.

Since the weather is starting to turn, what better way to spend time indoors than by working on a project radio!

For November, we will start a restoration contest to get members, new and old, engaged in restoring a radio or other electronic devices. The emphasis is geared toward newer members or those who have not attempted a restoration, but would like to.

For these newbies, we encourage them to ask for any assistance whether it be technical or material in nature. I have the assurances that established members will aid in their requests and the hope is to connect restorers with members who have tubes, capacitors, resistors, etc., and expertise available.

Join the fun!

Pat

Meeting Notes

From Franklin Ouchida

Our September meeting at the Abernethy Grange had a total attendance of 40. Thirty-two of us were there in person and 8 members tuned in on ZOOM. We had no guests.

There was planned an auction of parts and radios before the meeting and the meeting was the annual TRASH BASH so there was a lot of salvage work going on in the parking lot.

The October meeting was the Fall Swap Meet in Aurora. There was no business meeting, tech talk, or featured radio.

Share your latest project, passion or skill. Do a Tech Talk for the organization. You can do it either on Zoom or in person. We had some great speakers, and want to continue. We'll help you get started. Let me know. crazykeychains@gmail.com

Do you enjoy Radio Talk? (not talk radio) Join us every Wednesday at 7:00 pm (pacific time) for WRNZ (Wednesday Radio Nights on Zoom) on Zoom just as close as your computer or phone. If you don't already get an invitation, email me for one.

For those without routine email access, we have a phone list. Anyone without email access that would like a phone call to let them know about changes in plans or urgent NWVRS information. Please contact me by phone (971-407-8108) and I'll put you on a call list.

Calendar Dates

October 23rd - McCracken Auction @Abernethy Grange

November 13th is the NVRS meeting @ Abernethy Grange

December 11th the NVRS Christmas Party @ Abernethy Grange

NVRS Meeting Minutes-

-September 11, 2021

President Pat Kagi called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM. Members and guests pledged allegiance to our nation's flag. There were approximately 20 people attending our meeting this morning. Before our meeting there was a Trash Bash.

Everybody present observed a moment of silence for the 9-11 Attack twenty years ago. Mike McCrow told the group that the Fletcher property swap meet was a success and was very enjoyable according to attendees.

The Monthly Feature today is " Radios Whose Name Starts With a " T ". Members showed and discussed the radios that they brought.

Photo by Sonny Clutter

The " Tube of The Month " today is Tung Sol. Mike McCrow told the group about the company and he showed some Tung Sol tubes to the group.

The meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Liles Garcia

The McCracken Estate Auction October 23

The society still needs volunteers to transport the radios and to help get them to the high bidder. If you can help or provide a vehicle (or trailer) let me know. We especially need help on Oct 22 and 23. Please send an email: patkagi@yahoo.com

Pat

From our Roving Reporter:
Dan Howard

Dad and I had a great time in Aurora. It wasn't the biggest swap ever, but it was really great to spend time with so many friends. Bob Hay and his wife brought a copious quantity of battery sets, speakers, and parts.

It was great to see Dick Dielschneider, George Kirkwood, Sonny Clutter, Blake and Brian, Mike McCrow, Damon Vandehey, Tony Hauser, Tom Hoskins, Cliff Tuttle, Kiduk Ki, James Harper, Brian Toon, Bill Weigel, Brian Snawder, Jeff Hutchinson, Franklin Ouchida, Ed Tompkins, Jerry Hertel, Tom Mayfield, Gary Marvin, Esteban Mendoza, and a few others that I might have missed.

Mike Moran stopped by. Many don't know him but Mike's been around since the beginning. Dan Olseon brought his family and Don Knotts came by for a few minutes and found some knobs that he needed to complete a restoration. There was a Ray Nelson sighting also. And we gained at least one new member.

By noon, some members had departed and the crowd had thinned considerably. However that was when the walk-through from the Aurora antique shoppers noticeably picked up.

Folks that stuck around were treated to an incredible auction. Determined to "take nothing home (but cash)" Bob Hay cleared off his tables and very generously donated all the remaining sets to the NVRS for the auction.

Mike McCrow, Franklin Ouchida, and Ed Tompkins conducted the auction and every item found a new home. It was a lot of work. We should acknowledge the tremendous assistance provided by Jake Adams and Christian Winfield who stayed late and helped with teardown. Very special thanks to Robbie Robertson for managing the swap meet all the way from set up to tear down (and clean up). Thanks to ***Arlene's Cuisines*** for making delicious breakfasts and lunches available.

What a great way to spend a fall Saturday.

58 Years Ago

The day that radio went silent in Portland.

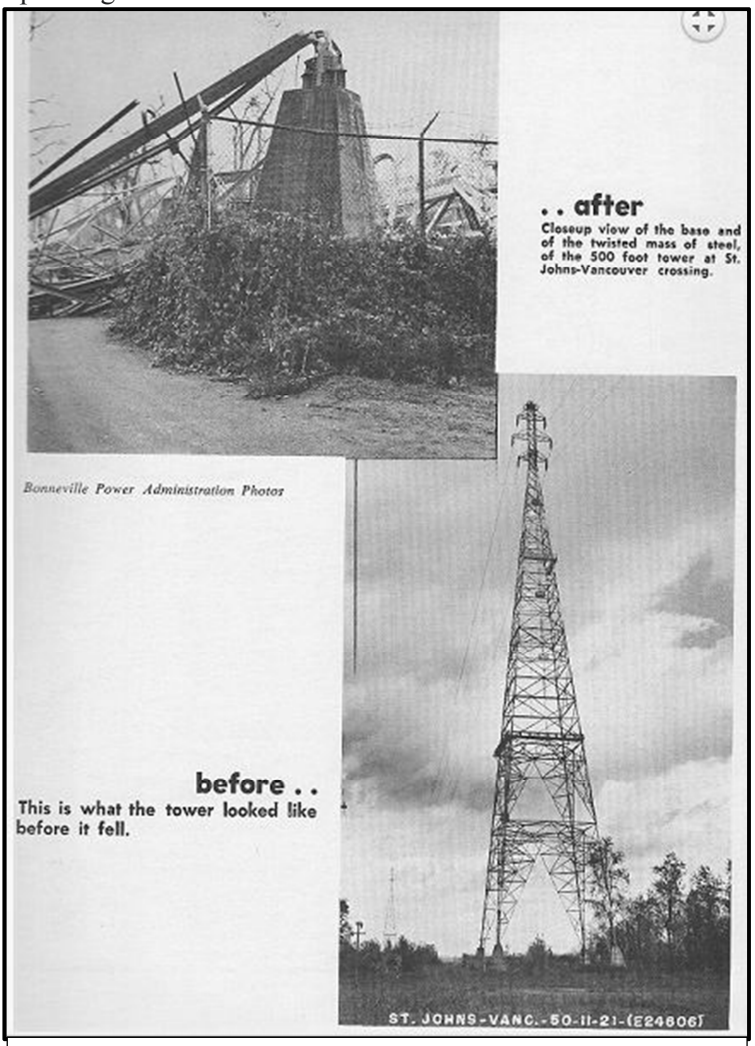
By Dick Karman
with special thanks to Ron Kramer, his research and "history books."

You might have heard it called Typhoon Freda, or the Big Blow, but if you were in the Seattle/Tacoma area or anywhere north of Salem, Oregon, it was called the Columbus Day Storm. The disturbance had been building since September 28, (1962). According to Wikipedia " The storm is a contender for the title of most powerful extratropical cyclone recorded in the U.S. in the 20th century; with respect to wind velocity, it is unmatched by the March 1993 "Storm of the Century" and the "1991 Halloween Nor'easter" ("The Perfect Storm"). . . . For Pacific Northwest windstorms in the 20th century, the runner up [for the most fatalities] was the infamous October 21, 1934, gale, which caused 22 fatalities, mostly in Washington." 46 people lost their lives in this storm in 1962.Most of the deaths in Oregon were the result of the winds hurling entire buildings to the ground and toppling hundreds of trees in residential areas.

Those of us in the Northwest had been given warning. The rains in Northern California dumped an average of 4 inches in a twelve hour period. The bay area measured 7 inches in 24 hours, with the damage centering on the San Francisco, Oakland, and Sacramento. Rain was not the only warning. The winds leveled billions of board feet of timber in northern California alone. Hundreds of acres of forest in Northern California and Southern Oregon were stripped bare.

The meteorological readings of barometric pressure and wind speed are part of the history books. Records were broken (not to mention a lot of radio equipment) along the Washington and Oregon coast where the storm center was less than 50 miles out to sea. As the storm moved north, wind gusts of 90 mph were recorded in Salem (where, according to PGE, 98% of electrical customers lost power, some for days). In Corvallis the last reading on the weather station before it was demolished, was 127 mph gust. The weather station in downtown Portland (securely fastened to the Morrison Bridge) recorded sustained winds of 80 miles per hour, with gusts reaching 116. On Mt. Hebo, near the Coast, the storm's winds destroyed an Air Force radar station. Entire electrical transmission cable

towers (some as tall as 500 feet) were uprooted and blown over, throwing the power grid into confusion.


. . after
Closeup view of the base and of the twisted mass of steel, of the 500 foot tower at St. Johns-Vancouver crossing.
Bonneville Power Administration Photos
before . .
This is what the tower looked like before it fell.
ST. JOHNS-VANC.-50-11-21-(E24606)

Bonneville Power transmission tower for lines spanning the Columbia River between Vancouver and St Johns. https://www.everettpost.com/local-news

And still the storm continued to move North at a rate of about 40 MPH. the Naselle Radar Station in southwest Washington, recorded a wind gust of 160 mph. Pearson air field in Vancouver showed a peak gust of 92 miles per hour.

But what of radio?

Radio stations saw it coming. Bob Chopping of KAST Astoria was on the air and on the telephone calling other coastal stations for weather reports. Chopping called KPOD in Crescent City. The first time they answered, the second time the line was dead. He also called KOOS in Coos Bay. Their initial phone call was "Not too bad yet." A few minutes later KOOS reported boats being blown out of the water and up the streets. Bob Chopping also called Tom Becker of KNPT, in Newport. In the course of 30 minutes Newport went from a quiet day to "a real wild storm." Through this interesting communication cycle KAST became the "early warning" sites for Astoria and the North Coast, getting boats away from the levy, and getting coastal families to seek higher ground.

Bob McClanathan was at KPAM-AM when the storm hit. Gordon Bussey was a reporter at KVAL. Jim Howe, news director at KEX, was in a helicopter over Portland. Jack Capel (weatherman for KGW radio and TV) was gathering weather readings at the PDX weather station, but KGW had lost its towers so Capel and his KGW associates "borrowed" another station's tower and stayed on the air for 13 hours straight. But Portland stations were losing their towers before they lost their power.

Mike Phillips was on the air at KISN when the tower fell over on top of the transmitter building. Mike Phillips was one of the "Good Guys" of KISN, but closer to home, Mike was the son of Gordon Phillips, a long time radio collector, and member and tireless volunteer of our society.

For sports fans there would be no play-by-play coverage of the OSU – UW football game Saturday, October 13. There was no electricity for the clock and the scoreboard in Multnomah Stadium. Sports-minded folks note the game was played and Huskies beat the Beavers 14-13.

Weathermen use anemometers to broadcast the "right now" weather conditions. The wind gauge atop the Portland studios of KGW recorded two gusts of 93 mph, just before flying debris knocked the gauge off of the building and that was at the beginning of the storm.

That's not all the KGW lost. The KGW TV and Radio tower on Skyline Blvd was destroyed. KOIN radio lost one of two AM towers just west of skyline at Sylvan. KPOJ-AM lost one of its two towers on Mount Scott. KPOJ-FM was so badly damaged it wouldn't return to the air for 5 months. KWJJ-AM, now located at Smith lake (since the Vanport flood had caused substantial damage only 14 years before) lost one of its towers and its transmitter building. KISN also lost a tower at Smith

Lake. Many other broadcasting stations, though perhaps not losing a tower were bounced off the air because there was no power to run the studio or the transmitter and many of them lacked generators.

KISN radio, working hard to stay on the air, got a generator shipped to Portland by rail car. Two days later they planned to go back on the air, but the generator was at Union station and KISN transmitters were at Smith Lake. So the KISN DJs rented a forklift and drove the generator, on its shipping pallet, all the way out Interstate Avenue and then out Lombard to Smith Lake. Unfortunately when one of the engineers spliced the power into the station they put it on the "public side" of the electrical meter instead of on the "private side." Station management paid for the all the electricity that they themselves were generating.

KGW stayed on the air throughout sharing others' towers that weren't damaged.

Overall, it was the day that Radio went silent in Portland, and a lot of the surrounding area.

The KGW tower on Skyline Blvd. after the storm of 1962 (Oregonian archive)

References:
Pioneer Mikes, Ron Kramer 2008 (Academic research version)
Detailed analysis of the 1962 Columbus Day Windstorm in Washington and Oregon, (Feb 1966) by Robert Lynott and Owen Cramer of PSU
Statesman Journal "55 years ago" 2017

September Photos

Photos courtesy of Sonny Clutter and Dan Howard.

Sonny Clutter's
"lil Trav-Ler"

Dick Howards Tricities
Single tube.

Dick Howard's Tuska battery set

Toshiba transistor radio display-

combined effort of Franklin Ouchida and Dan Howard.

The Trash Bash at the September meeting

A few of the battery sets for sale at the October, Aurora Swap Meet.

Swap Shop

Ads are free and service ads or WANTED ads can be permanent, For Sale ads run for 90 days. Please limit ads to 30 words or less.

Services:

Contact these members to be trained in Radio Repair:

Jan and Glenn Anderson	425 750 7600 Longview
Blake Dietze	360 944-7172 Vancouver
Ed Tompkins	360 573-3895 Vancouver

WANTED:

Radios made in Oregon. I do have some to trade. Thanks in advance.
Dick Howard (503) 775-6697 dhoward27@comcast.net

Needed and Wanted see my site -
https://www.radiolaguy.com/Wanted%20Items.htm
Sonny Clutter

Need 2 knobs for a Westinghouse H126 "Refrigerator Radio" in brown.
Hunting for a Toshiba 7TP30 in black. (Cosmetically clean)
Searching for Packard Bell 5R1 any Parts, Part Sets and/ Or Displayable Sets in Pink, Yellow and Green.
Looking for a Arborcone Speaker for my Arborphone 26
Franklin Ouchida crazykeychains@gmail.com 971-407-8108

FOR SALE:

Philco Model 20 Table Top for $70 and a Silvertone Model 6074 1930 Tabletop $50.
Robbie Robinson 503 810 0565

I need of a meter lens for a Heathkit IM-32 VTVM. Parts, or meter.
Mike McCrow 503-7304639

I collect and restore tube record players / phonographs; any table radios, portables, even Consoles! If you have a tube set that is in your way, and that you would like to get rid of or sell cheaply, please call. I also will repair or restore your tube sets. Email me a picture, or give me a call. Thanks!
John Livingston 503-708-2987

Military radios: 2 ea. R392 receivers, 2 ea. R662 transceivers, 1 ea. AM3349 400 watt RF amplifier. Complete but untested and came from the estate of a very active local ham. Lots of cables and manuals too.

Continued on page 13

$1200 for everything.
Bill Holeman bpasok@live.com

Tektronix 575 curve tracer. Includes the high voltage testing mod and Tek cart and original manual. Does not power on. No further troubleshooting has been done. - $350
Bill Holeman bpasok@live.com

Edison Chalet diamond disc wind up phonograph. Works well and is fairly uncommon. $125.00 Victor Victrola Model IX spring driven phonograph works well & in nice shape. $150.00 (Pics available).
Contact Pat at patkagi@yahoo.com

Special Call Letter Announcement

The Call Letter has been a part of the NVRS for 48 years. I feel it is a very important part of our society and an integral part of the history of our organization. To keep it from deteriorating into an "on again-off again" publication, as might have happened, I have volunteered to be editor for a while.

These are my editorial guidelines for the time being:

1. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing for grammar, content and accuracy.
2. Material submitted for publication must be emailed to the editor by the 3rd Thursday of the month prior to publication.
3. Articles with more than 1,500 words may be divided into multiple parts (please state if this is not acceptable).
4. Ads are free to members, but Ads for Services, Wanted and For Sale are limited to 30 words per submission.
5. Email protocol:
   Send it with a subject line of **NVRS BUSINESS**;
   send it to Relivingradio@karmans.net;
   large photos & attachments are not guaranteed to be included.
6. Topics for formal discussion and plans for large events should be included at least 60 days in advance.
7. Content from the officers and/or committees takes precedent over other material.

These will help us have a healthy newsletter and a record of what the society is or has pursued. Thanks for helping out by staying within the guidelines.

Dale Karman

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